



PATENT APPLICATION

2697
9/16/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Itaru HOMMA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2697

Application No.: 09/442,387

Examiner: Dorothy Wu

Filed: November 18, 1999

Docket No.: 104772

For: CAMERA CAPABLE OF COMMUNICATING WITH OTHER COMMUNICATION
DEVICE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SEP 02 2003

Technology Center 2600

Sir:

In reply to the July 29, 2003 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect
Group III, claims 5-10 with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 1-10 is sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one group of claims would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions" (emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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MAC:JFH/cmf

Date: August 29, 2003

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